

# The Burden of Tobacco in Sawyer County

Population 16,911

The Burden of Tobacco is a collaborative report of the University of Wisconsin Tobacco Surveillance and Evaluation Program, the American Cancer Society, and the Wisconsin Division of Public Health's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program.

### **Smokers in Wisconsin and Sawyer County**

|                                       | Wi           | Wisconsin       |              | Sawyer County    |  |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|--|
|                                       | # of Smokers | Percent Smokers | # of Smokers | Percent Smokers  |  |
| Total Number of Smokers               | 1,005,000    |                 | 2,960        |                  |  |
| Adult (18+) <sup>1,2</sup>            | 920,000      | 22%             | 2,730        | 21% <sup>‡</sup> |  |
| High School Youth <sup>3,4</sup>      | 66,000       | 21%             | 180          | 21%              |  |
| Middle School Youth <sup>3,4</sup>    | 19,000       | 8%              | 50           | 8%               |  |
| Smoking During Pregnancy <sup>5</sup> | 10,000       | 14%             | 60           | 33%              |  |

**Deaths Directly Related to Smoking** 

|  | Wisconsin                |                   | Sawyer County            |                   |                               |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cause of Death <sup>6,7</sup>              | Average<br>Annual Deaths | Due to<br>Smoking | Average<br>Annual Deaths | Due to<br>Smoking | % Due to Smoking <sup>†</sup> |
| Lung Cancer                                | 2,760                    | 2,208             | 12                       | 10                | 82%                           |
| Other Smoking-Related Cancers              | 2,066                    | 719               | 11                       | 4                 | 33%                           |
| Cardiovascular Disease                     | 16,412                   | 2,342             | 65                       | 9                 | 14%                           |
| Respiratory Disease                        | 3,416                    | 1,946             | 13                       | 8                 | 64%                           |
| Other Causes (not associated with smoking) | 21,619                   | 0                 | 88                       | 0                 | 0%                            |
| All Causes                                 | 46,273*                  | 7,215*            | 189*                     | 31*               | 17%                           |

### **Years of Potential Life Lost**

| Cause of death <sup>6</sup> | Wisconsin    | Sawyer County          |
|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Smoking-Related Cancers     | 43,000 years | 200 years              |
| Cardiovascular Disease      | 32,000 years | 130 years              |
| Respiratory Disease         | 21,000 years | 100 years              |
| All Causes                  | 96,000 years | 420 years <sup>*</sup> |

Due to small sample sizes the following counties were grouped to establish prevalence estimates: Ashland, Bayfield, Iron, Price, Sawyer, and Taylor.

<sup>†</sup> May not appear to be exact due to using decimals in the calculations. \*Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Note: Adult prevalence estimates from BRFSS, 2000-04; Youth estimates based on state level YTS, 2004; Maternal smoking estimates from WISH, 2004.

Note: Wisconsin and County Deaths Directly Related to Smoking and Years of Potential Life Lost are based on 2000-2004 mortality data.

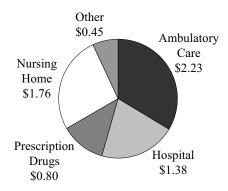
Note: See technical notes for a detailed description of the data sources and methodologies used to construct this report.

**Economic Impact of Cigarette Smoking in Wisconsin and Sawyer County** 

|                                   | Wisconsin       | Sawyer County |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Health Care Costs <sup>6,11</sup> | \$2,160,000,000 | \$6,620,000   |
| Lost Productivity <sup>6</sup>    | \$1,640,000,000 | \$5,030,000   |
| <b>Total Costs</b>                | \$3,800,000,000 | \$11,650,000  |

## Smoking Attributable Health Care Costs in Sawyer County, 2003<sup>6,11</sup>

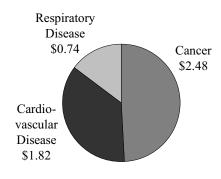
(In millions of dollars)



#### Total: \$6.6 Million

### Cost of Productivity Lost Due to Smoking in Sawyer County, 2001<sup>6</sup>

(In millions of dollars)



Total: \$5.0 Million\*

- In Wisconsin, an estimated 7,215 people die annually from illnesses directly related to smoking and approximately 853 die from illnesses and fires indirectly related to smoking, for a total of 8,068 annual deaths. 6-10
- Secondhand smoke is estimated to cause about 61 lung cancer deaths, 771 deaths from ischemic heart disease, and 9 infant deaths from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome in Wisconsin annually. Household fires in Wisconsin caused by cigarettes kill an estimated 12 people annually.
- In Sawyer County, approximately 31 die annually of illnesses directly related to smoking. 6,7
- Each year, approximately 17% of all deaths in Sawyer County are directly attributable to smoking. Cigarette smoking causes 82% of all lung cancer deaths and 14% of all deaths from cardiovascular disease in Sawyer County. 6,7
- In Wisconsin, approximately 96,000 years were lost from the potential lifespan of those who died of smoking-related illnesses in 2004. In Sawyer County, about 420 years are lost annually from the effects of smoking.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2003, an estimated \$2.2 billion in health care costs were paid in Wisconsin as a result of diseases caused by smoking, with \$6.6 million paid in Sawyer County. <sup>6,11</sup>
- Wisconsin lost \$1.6 billion, including \$5.0 million in Sawyer County, in productivity costs because of illness and premature death directly associated with smoking in 2001. 6
- In 2003, estimated health care costs of cigarette smoking were approximately \$390 for every man, woman and child in Sawyer County. <sup>6,11</sup>
- In 2004, there were over 384 million packs of cigarettes sold in Wisconsin. Residents of Sawyer County spent approximately \$4.1 million on 1,070,000 packs of cigarettes in 2004. 12